WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A purse with an illuminating device comprising, in combination:
 - a purse comprising:
 - a main storage area; and
- a clasp member having a first end coupled to one end of the main storage area and a second end coupled to a second end of the main storage area for opening and closing the main storage area; and
 - a lighting device comprising:
 - a power supply;
 - a light element coupled to the power supply;
- a housing coupled to the flap member which holds the power supply and light element; and
- a magnetic switch coupled to the clasp member and which automatically causes the lighting device to activate when the clasp member is opened.
- 2. A purse with an illuminating device in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the magnetic switch comprises:
- a first magnetic connector coupled to the first end of the clasp member; and
- a second magnetic connector coupled to the second end of the clasp member.

- 3. A purse with an illuminating device in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the purse further comprises carrying straps coupled to the main storage area for allowing the user to carry the purse.
- 4. A purse with an illuminating device in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the purse further comprises a plurality of compartment areas coupled to the main storage area.
- 5. A purse with an illuminating device in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the power supply is a flat battery.
- 6. A purse with an illuminating device in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the light element is a flat light bulb.

- 7. A purse with an illuminating device comprising, in combination:
 - a purse comprising:
 - a main storage area;
- a plurality of compartment areas coupled to the main storage area; and
- a clasp member having a first end coupled to one end of the main storage area and a second end coupled to a second end of the main storage area for opening and closing the main storage area; and
 - a lighting device comprising:
 - a power supply;
 - a light element coupled to the power supply;
- a housing coupled to the flap member which holds the power supply and light element; and
- a magnetic switch coupled to the clasp member and which automatically causes the lighting device to activate when the clasp member is opened wherein the magnetic switch comprises:
- a first magnetic connector coupled to the first end of the clasp member; and
- a second magnetic connector coupled to the second end of the clasp member.

- 8. A purse with an illuminating device in accordance with Claim 7 wherein the purse further comprises carrying straps coupled to the main storage area for allowing the user to carry the purse.
- 9. A purse with an illuminating device in accordance with Claim 7 wherein the power supply is a flat battery.
- 10. A purse with an illuminating device in accordance with Claim 7 wherein the light element is a flat light bulb.